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**Jacobs**

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(54) **ALSTROEMERIA PLANT NAMED**  
**'ZALSASAM'**

(50) Latin Name: *Alstroemeria hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Zalsasam**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Alstroemeria* plant named  
'Zalsasam', characterized by its erect and strong flowering  
stems; vigorous growth habit; yellow-colored flowers; and  
excellent postproduction longevity.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Botanical designation: *Alstroemeria hybrida*.  
Cultivar denomination: 'Zalsasam'.

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Alstroemeria* plant, botanically known as *Alstroemeria*  
*hybrida*, commercially used as a cut flower *Alstroemeria*, and  
hereinafter referred to by the name 'Zalsasam'.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant is a product of a planned  
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Rijnsenhout,  
The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to  
create new cut flower *Alstroemeria* cultivars with desirable  
flower and plant qualities, attractive foliage and flower col-  
oration and excellent postproduction longevity.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant originated from a cross-poll-  
ination made by the Inventor in Rijnsenhout, The Netherlands  
in May, 2002, of a proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection  
identified as code number 97-0915-004PN, not patented, as  
the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary *Alstroemeria*  
*hybrida* selection identified as code number 99-0074-16, not  
patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Alstroemeria*  
was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering  
plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination  
in a controlled greenhouse environment in Rijnsenhout, The  
Netherlands in June, 2003.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Alstroemeria* plant by  
rhizome divisions in a controlled greenhouse environment in  
Rijnsenhout, The Netherlands since September, 2003, has  
shown that the unique features of this new *Alstroemeria* plant  
are stable and reproduced true to type in successive genera-  
tions.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have not been observed  
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype  
may vary somewhat with variations in environment and cul-  
tural practices such as temperature and light intensity with-  
out, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are  
determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Zalsasam'.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Zalsasam'  
as a new and distinct cultivar of *Alstroemeria* plant:

1. Erect and strong flowering stems.
2. Vigorous growth habit.
3. Yellow-colored flowers.
4. Excellent postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants  
of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria*  
differ from plants of the female parent selection primarily in  
flower size as plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have smaller  
flowers than plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants  
of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria*  
differ from plants of the male parent selection primarily in  
leaf size as plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have larger leaves  
than plants of the male parent selection. In addition, plants of  
the new *Alstroemeria* produce more flowering stems per year  
than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants  
of *Alstroemeria hybrida* 'Zalsasenan', disclosed in U.S. Plant  
Pat. No. 15,274. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in  
Rijnsenhout, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Alstroemeria*  
differed primarily from plants of 'Zalsasenan' in flower bud  
color as plants of the new *Alstroemeria* had darker yellow-  
colored flower buds than plants of 'Zalsasenan'.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the over-  
all appearance of the new *Alstroemeria*, showing the colors as  
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproduc-  
tions of this type. Colors in the photograph may differ slightly  
from the color values cited in the detailed botanical descrip-  
tion which accurately describe the colors of the new *Alstro-*  
*emeria*.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a  
typical flowering stem of 'Zalsasam'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observa-  
tions and measurements describe plants of the new *Alstro-*

*emeria* grown in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands in a glass-covered greenhouse in ground beds. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 15° C. to 20° C., night temperatures ranged from 10° C. to 15° C. and light levels averaged 5,000 lux. Plants used for the photograph and description had been growing for one year. The photograph and the description were taken in the late summer. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Alstroemeria hybrida* 'Zalsasam'.  
Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 97-0915-004PN, not patented.

*Male or pollen parent.*—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 99-0074-16, not patented.

#### Propagation:

*Type.*—By tissue culture.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.*—About 40 days.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.*—About 60 days.

*Root description.*—Fibrous, fleshy, thick; close to 155D in color.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching; moderately dense.

*Rhizomes.*—Shape: Elongate; rounded. Length: About 10 cm to 30 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm to 10 mm. Texture: Smooth. Color: Close to 155D.

#### Plant description:

*Plant and growth habit.*—Upright; freely branching, bushy appearance; vigorous growth habit.

*Time from planting to harvest of cut flowers.*—About 80 to 90 days.

*Number of flowering stems produced per year.*—About 220 to 260.

*Plant height.*—About 125 cm to 165 cm.

*Plant diameter (spread).*—About 35 cm.

#### Flowering stem description:

*Aspect.*—Erect.

*Length.*—About 112 cm to 148 cm.

*Diameter.*—About 7 mm to 9 mm.

*Internode length.*—About 1 cm to 5 cm.

*Strength.*—Strong.

*Texture.*—Smooth, glabrous.

*Color.*—Close to 146B.

#### Foliage description:

*Appearance.*—Leaves asymmetrical; sessile.

*Length.*—About 12.3 cm to 18.3 cm.

*Width.*—About 2.5 cm to 4.1 cm.

*Shape.*—Lanceolate.

*Apex.*—Acute.

*Base.*—Attenuate.

*Margin.*—Entire; slightly undulate.

*Texture, upper and lower surfaces.*—Smooth, glabrous.

*Venation pattern.*—Parallel.

*Color.*—Developing and fully developed leaves, upper surface: Close to 147A; venation, close to 147A. Developing and fully developed leaves, lower surface: Close to 147B; venation, close to 147B.

#### Flower description:

*Flower type and habit.*—Single cup-shaped flowers arranged in compound umbels. Flowers face mostly outwardly. Perianth segments separate. Freely and continuously flowering.

*Natural flowering season.*—Flowering continuous during the spring in The Netherlands.

*Fragrance.*—Not detected.

*Flower longevity on the plant.*—About four weeks; flowers not persistent.

*Flower longevity as a cut flower.*—About 12 to 16 days.

*Flower buds (showing color).*—Length: About 4.5 cm to 5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm to 2 cm. Shape: Roughly ovoid. Color: Close to 151D.

*Umbel height.*—About 15 cm to 20 cm.

*Umbel diameter.*—About 25 cm to 27 cm.

*Number of flowers per umbel.*—About 8 to 24.

*Flower diameter.*—About 6.5 cm to 7.5 cm.

*Flower length (height).*—About 6.5 cm to 7.5 cm.

*Flower depth.*—About 6.5 cm to 7 cm.

*Perianth.*—Arrangement: Six arranged in two whorls, each whorl with two lateral and one median segments. Outer perianth, lateral segments: Length: About 5.5 cm to 6.2 cm. Width: About 2.9 cm to 3.2 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Embedded pointed. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire; weakly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 9A; towards the apex and venation, greenish overtones; occasional stripes, close to 183A. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 9A; towards the apex and venation, greenish overtones. Outer perianth, median segment: Length: About 5.8 cm to 6.2 cm. Width: About 3 cm to 3.2 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Embedded pointed. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire; weakly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 9A; towards the apex and venation, greenish overtones; occasional stripes, close to 183A. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 9A; towards the apex and venation, greenish overtones. Inner perianth, lateral segments: Length: About 5.7 cm to 6.6 cm. Width: About 1.4 cm to 1.6 cm. Shape: Oblanceolate. Apex: Pointed. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire; weakly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 9A; towards the apex, greenish overtones; stripes, close to 183A. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 9A; venation, greenish overtones; stripes, close to 183A. Inner perianth, median segment: Length: About 6.1 cm to 6.3 cm. Width: About 1.4 cm to 1.6 cm. Shape: Elliptical. Apex: Pointed. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire; weakly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 9A; towards the apex, greenish overtones; stripes, close to 183A. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 9A; venation, greenish overtones; stripes, close to 183A.

*Pedicels.*—Length: About 4 cm to 11 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm to 4 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: Erect to about 30° C. from vertical. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 146B.

*Reproductive organs*.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Six. Anther shape: Elliptical. Anther length: About 8 mm. Anther diameter: About 2 mm. Anther color: Close to 152A. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 152B. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Style length: About 3.4 cm to 4.5 cm. Style color: Close to 24D. Stigma color: Close to 15B. Ovary color: Close to 146A.

*Fruit/seed*.—Fruit and seed development has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Alstroemeria*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about  $-5^{\circ}\text{C}$ . to about  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Alstroemeria* plant named 'Zalsasam' as illustrated and described.

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